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30 November 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Administration

SUBJECT : Suppliers' Meeting on 12 December 1955

1. In a conversation with the Deputy Project Director late on 29 November, we confirmed 12 December as the date of the proposed suppliers' meeting. He plans to be in Watertown for a day or two preceding the meeting, then to attend the meeting and return here immediately afterward. I plan to travel West on 11 December, attend the meeting on the 12th, and probably spend the 13th and 14th at Watertown, returning to Washington the night of the 14th.

2. I am most anxious that our Headquarters should not be virtually denuded of senior officers on this occasion, and I am anxious for financial reasons well known to you to keep our travel to a minimum. Accordingly, I believe the Headquarters delegation at this meeting should be a small one.

3. I believe it essential that [] attend, since he has neither had contact with the majority of our suppliers nor had any opportunity to see our equipment or to visit Watertown. It might well be a good time for [] to make the trip. We hope that [] can be present, since he should have at least a preliminary visit to Watertown in the near future and will have constant contact with the suppliers when he takes charge there. Certainly, either [] will have to be present. Unless there is pressing business which requires other Headquarters personnel to make the trip, I am inclined to think the delegation should be limited to these individuals.

4. I know you had planned to be at this meeting, and I do not want to interfere with urgent business you may have and which could not be handled, at least for the present, by one of us who will be out there. If it is at all possible, however, I hope you will let someone else handle any urgent matters and postpone your own trip until later.

RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
Project Director

cc: Deputy Project Director

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30 November 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

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SUBJECT : Briefing of [redacted]

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1. [redacted] and Midland met with [redacted] CO, USAFE, [redacted] for the purpose of briefing [redacted] on estimated support requirements for our project in the near future. [redacted] began the meeting with a brief summary of the project to date and ended with generalized indications of the support required from [redacted] regarding the building of facilities at Adams and the continued material and maintenance support associated therewith. He emphasized that this briefing was held primarily to ready the USAFE staff into the project so that they would be more qualified to discuss specific problems with representatives of HQ, USAF, and SAC during the next week or so.

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2. [redacted] appeared receptive to their responsibilities in support of this project. There were three main points that developed from further discussion:

a. In all probability, trailers would be used to house our personnel since Nissen huts and Butler buildings are in short supply and would be costly to install.

b. There was some concern over Project 119L extending its activities beyond May 1956. This of course is based on the assumption that the project will be launched 1 December 1955. [redacted] is going to explore the possibility of expediting landmakings at Adams so that they will clear the area by the time we are ready to take possession of our facilities there.

c. [redacted] reviewed the directive he will receive from HQ, USAF, and requested that his mission be clearly stated, namely, that USAFE will be responsible for supply and maintenance support to the SAC Support Unit at Adams and that all organisational maintenance and supply activities are not their responsibility. In this respect he brought up the problem of funding for project activities. [redacted] assured [redacted] that he would obtain funds from Air Force sources for any activities associated with our project in the area.

3. This preliminary briefing was beneficial and served the purpose of alerting [redacted] of their support requirements before the Air Force working group reports to USAFE Headquarters in the next week or so. Details will be developed during this joint USAF/SAC/USAFE meeting.

[redacted]
Colonel, USAF

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